**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**MARCH 2023**

 **FAITH CHRONICLES**

 **Faith United Lutheran** **Church**

 **4543 Douglas Road – Toledo, Ohio 43613**

 **419-473-1369**

**Email: faithunitedlutherantoledo@gmail.com**

**Website:** [**www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com**](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) **or** [**www.faithunited.church**](http://www.faithunited.church)

Pastor: Pr. Tom Schaeffer Worship Services: Sunday – 10:00 am

Secretary: Jan Weatherly Choir Director: Rick Napierala

Organist: Patricia Haase

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Pastor Tom at 419-481-3891 or Donna Morrin at 419-290-8997*

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**A Message from our Pastor**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Though I grew up in the Lutheran Church, I also grew up in a highly Roman Catholic city. Consequently, it was normal practice for my High School to serve fish on Fridays during Lent. The same was true of the restaurants in my hometown. It was also commonplace for persons and families, protestant or Catholic, to give up something for Lent.

This is how most people observe a Lenten fast. They make a decision to abstain from something for these 40 days. Now the idea was (and is) for those who practice it, that the thing you give up should be something that you will miss. Unlike my one Catholic friend from high school who gave up elephant steak every year. The purpose of the fast, simplified, is that every time you think of that thing you have given up, you remember why you have done it—in remembrance of all that Christ sacrificed for us. Thus, your thoughts are constantly turned back to Christ.

In this way, it is really a wonderful and beneficial practice. But, this doesn’t only need to happen through the subtraction of something you love. We can also turn our minds towards Christ, by adding something to our lives. Perhaps you set an alarm on your cell phone that goes off one, two, or three times a day at which time you pray the Lord’s Prayer. Maybe you decide to begin each morning with the reading of Scripture or the use of a devotional. Additionally, you could decide to join the Zoom bible study on Wednesdays as a way of inviting Christ into your week between Sundays. All these things, and many others, make for a blessed and beneficial Lent.

What might you add or subtract from your life for those next 40 days to draw your heart and mind closer to Christ? What will be your Lenten practice?

United in Faith,

Pastor Tom

**Special Worship Schedule for Lent**

Wednesday – Mar. 1 – Worship at Faith United. 7:00

Wednesday – Mar. 8 – Worship at Faith United. 7:00

Wednesday – Mar. 15 – Worship at Faith United. 7:00

Wednesday – Mar. 22 – Worship at Faith United. 7:00

Wednesday – Mar. 29 – Worship at Faith United. 7:00

Sunday – April 2 – Palm Sunday. 10:00am

Thursday – April 6 – Maundy Thursday – Worship at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church. 1690 W. Sterns Rd., Temperance, MI

 7:00

Friday – April 7 – Good Friday – Worship at Faith United. 7:00.

Sunday – April 9 – Easter Sunday – Festival Worship at Faith United. 10:00am

**Special Services**

The first Sunday of each month will be a Healing Service. The second Sunday of every month we will use the Haugen Hymnal Service Supplement for the liturgy portion of worship, including guitars.

**WHAT’S NEW AT FAITH UNITED**

**Facebook Page:** If you haven’t been to Faith United’s Facebook page yet, please visit there (and Like us.) Anyone is welcome to share photos of church activities, say hello to one another and just keep up on news. You can also share upcoming events with your Friends. It is called Faith United Lutheran Church.

**Web Site** – The church’s Web site, [www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) or www.faithunited.church, is a great source for information for you and you can tell friends to check out the site to find out what is happening at Faith United!

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**Church Office Hours** –The church office is fully open to visitors again. Office hours are 10:00 – 3:00 M-F.

**Church Supplies** – the church is always in need of paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap. You can bring supplies to the church office or drop off on the next Sunday we are together.

**FROM THE OFFICE SECRETARY**

 I would like to thank all the people who came in and helped clean out the office, got the new office furniture in and assembled, and got everything back together again. It was a big job, but everyone pitched in, and it was all done rather quickly.

 Things will be ramping up in the office for the next few weeks, until Easter. It can get pretty hectic in here but know that you are always welcome to call or visit the office. And I will probably be calling on folks to help out here and there.

 As most of you have noticed, I’m having a significant problem with my right knee and hip. Mobility is an issue for me, but it does not stop me from completing my daily tasks. I appreciate everyone’s help and concern during this time. I see an orthopaedic doctor later in March, and I’m hopeful that at least part of the problem may be remedied soon.

 As always, it is a privilege to be able to serve this congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Weatherly, Office Secretary

**WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)**

Go Deeper Into Lent

 by Audrey Novak Riley

...”We reflect upon the time of remembering Jesus’ Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. I this holy season of Lent, we acknowledge our need for repentance and for God’s mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. We are invited, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love-strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection.”

 Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

 WELCA extends an invitation to all ladies for a Communion Breakfast on April 1 at 10:00 am in Luther Hall. This is an opportunity for prayer and contemplation as we enter into Holy Week. A light continental breakfast will be served. Please make you reservations on the sign-up sheet at the WELCA table in the vestibule by March 19

 This month WELCA will meet Saturday, March 4 at 10:00 am in the Lounge for Bible Study and fellowship. Our monthly gatherings are for all women of Faith United. This is a wonderful time to get to know one another and share in our life journeys.

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

**FROM THE OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

 Well, our first Family Fun Night of 2023 is now in the books. Our “Not Your Mother’s Meatloaf” dinner was a very fun evening for all in attendance. There were a few varieties of meatloaf, all of which were quite delish. Jeopardy was attempted for the first time, and it seemed to go over well (when we play trivia again, make sure you wrangle Joanne’s grandson onto your team!!!). The turnout was modest, but a good time was had by all.

 Family Fun Nights will happen on the last Friday of each month for the rest of this year, unless something else is going on. It would then be moved to Saturday night. The committee is putting together plans for some new activities and shoring up the usual popular items.

 It would be lovely to see some new faces in the group.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Weatherly, Outreach Coordinator

**Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 8 at 11:00pm.**

**at Faith United**

 This year we are bringing back our traditional Easter Egg Hunt as an outreach to the community as well as for our own children. We need your help! We are asking for donations of candy, stickers or small trinkets to fill plastic eggs. We have saved the plastic eggs from past years, so we just need you to purchase candy or small items. There will be a box in the narthex for you to leave the candy. Please bring the candy and other items no later than April 2. These will then be stuffed into the plastic eggs and “hidden” on the front lawn of the church for the children to find. Children, ages 2 to 6th grade (approximately 12 years old) are invited to participate. Bring your neighbor children, your grandchildren, your nieces or nephews, anyone you want! We also would encourage adults to come and help with the event. Because we are on a busy street we plan to have adults line the sidewalk to keep the children away from the street. Anyone who can help with this is welcome!

 Mark your calendar – bring the neighbors!

Thank you,

Sheryl Johnson, coordinator

**Easter Brunch**

The Easter Brunch has become a long-standing tradition at Faith United. This year, as in past years, we will have the brunch from 8:30 – 9:30am before the Easter Festival Worship Service. The menu will be egg casseroles, coffee cakes and doughnuts, juice and coffee. This is a wonderful brunch and one we look forward to yearly! There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex to donate food items. Plan to arrive early and enjoy breakfast with your Faith United friends before the Easter worship service.

**Calling All Ding-a-lings!**

The Faith United Bell Choir is looking to expand. We need a few more ringers in order to play more octaves and more difficult music. Even if you don’t read music you can ring a bell or two. We welcome anyone who wants to give it a try. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 6:00 in the church sanctuary. Please consider checking it out.

**Flowers for Easter and Friends of Music**

We are continuing our tradition of adorning the church with a flood of beautiful spring flowers on Easter Sunday. We are also using the flowers to decorate the beautiful cross that will be in the front. A very small portion of your flower purchase will go to Friends of Music to help pay for the brass musicians on Easter Sunday. (The form to purchase flowers is at the end of the newsletter). What is “Friends of Music” you ask? Friends of Music is a subcommittee of the Worship committee. Its primary purpose is to fund musical expenses outside of the budget. For example, just to have brass musicians one Sunday can cost $500. In the past Friends of Music has been used to pay for extra musicians throughout the year, accompanists for choir cantatas, soloists, and purchase of new, expensive music like the cantatas. If you would like to show your appreciation for the music at Faith you can contribute toward that fund by simply marking the envelope “Friends of Music” and it will be deposited in that account.

**REGULAR BUILDING USE-MARCH 2023**

Monday 12:00-1:00 Open-Minded AA Lower Educational Wing

 5:30-8:30 Kylie & Co. Luther Hall

 5:30-9:45 Driving School Lower Educational Wing

 7:00- Church Council Conference Room (2nd Monday each month)

Tuesday 12:00-1:00 Open-Minded AA Lower Educational Wing

 4:30-9:30 Volleyball Luther Hall

 5:30-9:45 Driving School Lower Educational Wing

Wednesday 12:00-1:00 Open-Minded AA Lower Educational Wing

 5:30-8:30 Kylie & Co. Luther Hall

 7:00-10:00 12-Step West AA Lower Educational Wing

Thursday 12:00-1:00 Open-Minded AA Lower Educational Wing

 5:30-7:00 Basketball Luther Hall

 5:30-9:45 Driving School Lower Educational Wing

 6:00-6:50 Bell Choir Sanctuary

 7:00-9:00 Choir Sanctuary

 7:30-9:30 Volleyball Luther Hall

Friday 5:00-9:00 Volleyball Luther Hall

**SPECIAL BUILDING USE-MARCH 2023**

SATURDAY 03/04/2023 10:00-5:00 WEDDING SANCTUARY

WEDNESDAY 03/08/2023 11:00-1:00 FORMS MINISTRY LUTHER HALL

FRIDAY 03/10/2023 10:00-10:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

SATURDAY 03/11/2023 10:00-10:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

TUESDAY 03/14/2023 11:00-1:00 FOOD FOR THOUGHT L.H.

SATURDAY 03/18/2023 12:00-9:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

SUNDAY 03/19/2023 10:00-10:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

WEDNESDAY 03/22/2023 11:00-1:00 FORMS MINISTRY LUTHER HALL

SATURDAY 03/25/2023 12:00-7:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

SUNDAY 03/26/2023 2:00-8:00 PRIVATE EVENT LUTHER HALL

FRIDAY 03/31/2023. 6:30-?? FAMILY FUN NIGHT LUTHER HALL

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Home:** Lynn Jacobson & Barb Fisher, Bethany Collier, Karen & Mike Isbell, Tom Hillesheim, Joanna Ranes, Molly Brown & family, Rob Young, Carole Haugh, Jan Weatherly, John Kusz, Freider Kempf, Carol & Chuck Dolt, Corinne Oliger, Marcia Conn, Bill & Mary Ann McDermott, Art Schroeder, Julie Boesenhofer, Randy Collier, Judy & Al Schaarschmidt, Jan Weatherly, John Bailiff, Sandy & Steve Drake, Larry Matzinger, Gloria DeMerritt, Lori Knous, Lydia Latsch, Jan Leonard, Colleen Krebser.

**Hospitals/Care Centers:** Char Bowlus (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Libby Ketterman (Swan Creek); Pastor Nick Mays (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Michael Morrin.

**Friends & Family:** Margaret Schonter; Joann & Jeff Monnett, Mike Jones, Phillip Householder, Dave Krolak; Janice Blazey; Laura Sams, daughter of Sue & John Kusz; Carol Struckholz; Peggy Thomas, Karen’s mother, Tom Steedman; Cody by Sharon Kaczmarek; Julie Hipple by Ruth & Roger Stygles; Sue & Gary Faber, Devan & John, Patti, Jenny & Hunter, Tom & Teri, Linda & Fritz, Don, Dennis, Al, Bryan & Lisa, David, Kim & Dan, Lou & Barbie, Naomi & Delano, Cathy & George Andre.

In the military: Roy Oberhaus, Bill Myers, Ashley and Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kyle Mikolajczyk, Kayla Fowler, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim, Chris, Tyler Coulter, Pete Christoff, Nicholas Kerchvall, Andrea Perry

**Happy March Birthday to…! Happy March Anniversary to…!**

Mar. 1 Ruth Stadler, Frank Weaver, Thomas LeBowsky 21 Fred & Corinne Oliger

1. Libby Ketterman 22 Shearly & Eric Schmidt
2. Fran Oliver
3. Marsha Wagner
4. Linda Weaver, Vikki Weaver
5. Jan Weatherly
6. Destinee Sarnecky, Tom Titkemeier

14 Emily Watkins

 17 Kelly Cluckey, Alicia Walker

 19 Nyssa Clark

 22 Dorothea Goodlet

 23 Carole Haugh, Barb Links

 24 Linda Bellman

 29 Leslee Pryor

 31 Craig Whitaker, Sandra Lininger

If your birthday does not appear here, please contact Peg Hinds at pdhinds@gmail.com so I can add your birthday to the list. Also, I do not have anniversaries for any former Augsburg members. If you would like to be recognized on your anniversary (of course you do!), send me an email with your name and date.

**Bible Readings for March**

1 Matthew 18:10-14 17 Ephesians 5:1-9

2 2 Timothy 1:3-7 18 John 1:1-9

3 Romans 3:21-31 19 John 9:1-41

4 Luke 7:1-10 20 Acts 9:1-20

5 John 3:1-16 21 Colossians 1:9-14

6 Ephesians 4:25-32 22 Matthew 9:27-34

7 Romans 4:6-13 23 Revelation 10:1-11

8 John 7:53-8:11 24 Revelation 11:15-19

9 Colossians 1:15-23 25 Luke 24:44-53

10 Ephesians 2:11-22 26 John 11:1-45

11 John 4:1-6 27 Acts 20:7-12

12 John 4:5-42 28 Ephesians 2:1-10

13 2 John 1-13 29 Matthew 22:23-33

14 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 30 Philippians 1:1-11

15 John 7:14-31, 37-39 31 Philippians 1:21-30

16 Ephesians 4:25-32

 

**Easter Flowers**

As in past years, we will be taking orders for flowers to adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. We will offer tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, and lilies. The price of each plant will be $10; $1.00 of the price of the plant will be used to defray the costs of the brass on Easter Sunday.

**Please complete the following order form. We ask that a check for the cost of the flowers accompany the order. The order form and money must be turned in no later than March 26.**

**Easter Flower Order Form**

**Due no later than March 26**

**Name. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(indicate number of each plant you would like to order)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tulip**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lily**

**In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Total amount due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Check/money enclosed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

  

 